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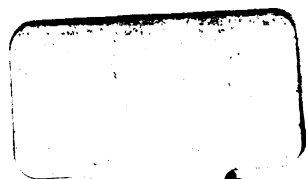
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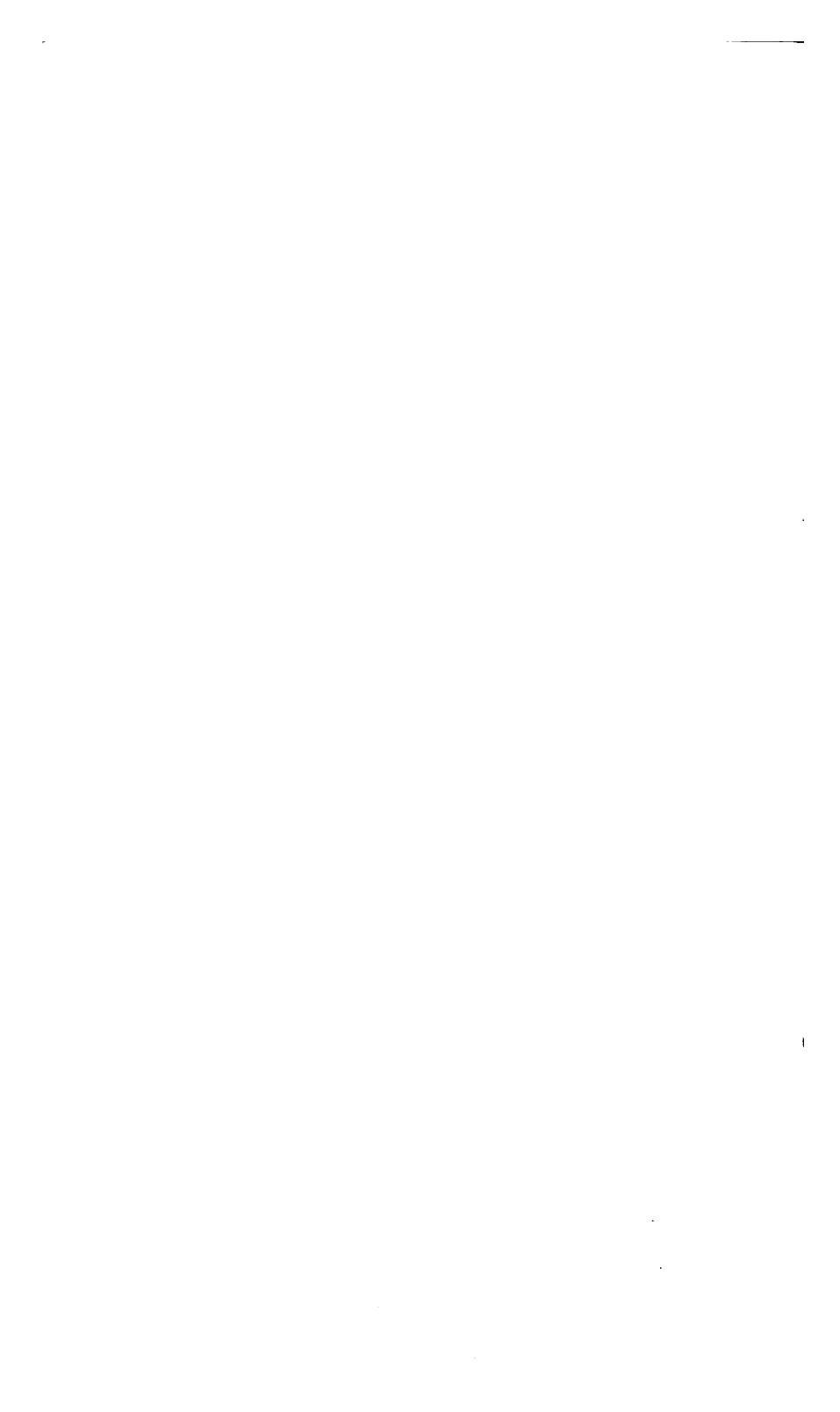
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STRICTURES
ON
COBBET'S UNMANLY OBSERVATIONS,
RELATIVE TO THE
DELICATE INVESTIGATION;
AND
A REPLY TO THE ANSWER
TO
AN ADMONITORY LETTER,
TO
H. R. H. the Prince of Wales,

CONTAINING
An Account of the true cause why the Commissioners' Report has
not yet been published, and many other additional facts.

BY THE AUTHOR OF THE ADMONITORY LETTER.

London :
Printed by Dewick and Clarke, Aldersgate-street,
FOR TIPPER AND RICHARDS, LEADENHALL-STREET.

1806.
[Price Two Shillings.]

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STRICTURES, &c.

Hæc ego non credam Venusina digna lucerna
Hæc ego non agitem ?

SINCE the days of Junius, perhaps no periodical writer has attracted more notice than William Cobbet: scurrility, illiberality, acuteness in detecting the weakness of an antagonist, bold assertions, vigor of argument, an artful but cowardly manner of insinuating what they dare not openly declare, and an utter contempt of truth, alike characterise the writings of both; but the pages of the **POLITICAL REGISTER**, never reflect the brilliancy, wit, or elegance of a **JUNIUS**.

Upon some occasions, however, the author may be considered an useful man; and had he
confined

confined himself to an exposure of corruption, an opposition to arbitrary proceedings, and to holding up the torch of Satire, to expose the follies and vices of the age, (even though he had been guilty of that illiberal scurrility, which is the principal characteristic of his pen) I should not have felt justified in censuring his exertions.

Observe, when I declare, that I consider him to be a character *sometimes* useful, I by no means wish to be understood, as approving his *general* conduct, more than I do that of the *public executioner* : their offices, in some respects, resemble each other, and they may be both regarded as necessary evils ; the latter, however, is certainly the *more valuable* person, for he never inflicts punishment but on guilt, whereas the former not unfrequently strains the cord around the throat of innocence.

The *extent* of Mr. Cobbet's purity has been pretty accurately estimated by the public, and there is not one in ten, even among the admirers of his publication, who does not reprobate the principles of its author : principles which are
totally

totally at variance with the doctrine he affects to promulgate.

His address to the electors of Westminster, and his conduct respecting the Borough of Honiton, are criterions by which we may correctly determine, both the *profundity* of his *disinterested patriotism*, and the *exuberance* of his "*downcast modesty*."

In the former, after explaining to the electors, what qualities and acquirements the person ought to possess, who aspires to the honor of representing them in Parliament, he *very modestly* begs them to observe, that it is not his intention to become a candidate *unless no other person, so qualified*, should offer himself to their notice!

Now should any one (after what has been said by this *all-didactic personage*) *presume* to start for the city of Westminster, who is to decide whether he possess *such qualifications* as will render it unnecessary for the *disinterested*, the *patriotic* Mr. Cobbet to stand forth his opponent. Who but this identical WILLIAM COBBET, the man who conceives himself alone equal to sustaining

taining, and opposing the united attacks of *Tories, Whigs, Broad-bottomites, and Puritans.*—And will such immeasurable vanity conceive any earthly being, so admirably fitted to adorn the senate as his *accomplished* self.—Gentle electors, prepare to behold this *wonder* standing forward to rescue you (as *he* will assert) from the grasp of corruption, and (as *I* will assert) in hopes of obtaining the object of his preposterous ambition. Such are his intentions, and such will be his actions, unless (which will most probably be the case) he find his canvass *not quite so successful* as his vanity induces him to forebode.

My intention not being to animadvert upon the whole of his publication, but to confine myself to that part of it which relates to H. R. H. the P——ss of W——s, I must not suffer myself to be led from my subject, by the numerous absurdities and inconsistencies which arrest my attention in searching the pages thereof. What I have noticed may perhaps open the eyes of the few who are blind to his demerits, and induce them to reflect what degree of credit should attach to the insinuations of *suck a man*.

I deny

I deny his position altogether, (see page 266. vol. 10 of his Register) That it does not look well to begin a defence, by impeaching the characters of the accusers. If it were not allowable to do so, our fame, our fortunes, and our lives, would not be worth one twelve month's purchase. There are, alas! so many vicious characters in every country, that few, very few, particularly among the highest order of society, are without enemies, who, from envy, pique, malice, or interest, would rejoice in accomplishing their destruction, provided it could be done with a prospect of impunity. It is a fundamental maxim of every system of jurisprudence, that the accused should be condemned or acquitted by the evidence of *credible witnesses*, and the law regards with a jealous eye the accusations of those, whom it is possible to imagine, actuated by revengeful, or interested motives.

When was any person arraigned for a supposed crime without evidence being adduced, who have attempted to establish his guilt, although there were not the slightest foundation for the charges against him; and how could any man establish his innocence, if he were not permitted
to

to discredit and invalidate the testimony of his accusers; for there are very few cases where it is possible to prove a negative, except by an *alibi*, which numerous causes may prevent the party from establishing. I shall not, in imitation of Mr. Cobbet, inform my readers, that I have *no opinion* upon the subject, as it respects the accusers of an illustrious personage, because my opinion is decided, and had she been found guilty of all the frailties laid to her charge, *upon such evidence only*, that opinion would have been the same.

Here it may not be thought irrelative to examine the truth of Mr. Cobbet's assertions. "That *he* meant to express *no opinion whatever* upon the merits of the case upon the great question whether the lady was guilty of the frailties *said* to have been laid to her charge, and that it was *solely for the purpose of combating* the editor of the MORNING POST, (whom he styles a shocking slave) that his remarks were made, and "not for the purpose of giving by *way of insinuation*, an opinion hostile to the accused."

Could any thing be more futile or more absurd. *He* has given no opinion it is true, but

he has taken wonderful pains to direct the opinion of the public, and that too in a path adverse to truth and justice.

Whenever he discovers a *practicable breach* in the argument of his adversary (which must of necessity sometimes occur in the hasty compositions of a daily writer) he storms it instantly with all the collected forces, which malignity, illiberality, and satire can bring into action, and if he obtain a *temporary* victory, disdains to reflect, who may have suffered by his indiscriminate fury.

Every body must be aware, that to attack the *defender*, is, in effect, the same thing as to attack the defended: and that whosoever unsheaths the sword against the one, must be the enemy of the other.—If our inveterate foe, Bonaparte, when on the eve of invading our shores, were to publish a manifesto, declaring that it was not his intention to do us any injury, and that he only meant to chastise the forces that defended our dearest rights, would not Mr. Cobbet laugh at his credulity, who might be silly enough to believe the tyrants assurances? And yet he seems to
 c— imagine

imagine we all possess similar credulity, when he attempts to impress us with the idea, that he fights not against the cause of an illustrious lady, although he avowedly strives to vanquish her defender.

The editor of a daily newspaper has a most laborious and difficult task to perform, and, spite of the minutest attention the nature of the business will allow, some false information, may undesignedly creep into the columns of his publication: it is therefore an ungenerous act to accuse him of general falsehood, because some few inaccuracies of this nature, have been thus given to the world; it is still more ungenerous to attack him upon grounds, where it may be impossible to defend himself without indelicacy, or a breach of confidence. An editor may have means of obtaining information, but that information must of necessity be confined to certain limits.—That the public are indebted to the *Morning Post*, for the communication of many important facts, relative to the delicate investigation, cannot be contradicted; that it may not have possessed the information or authority to answer some of Mr. Cobbet's evil-meaning enquiries,

quiries, is extremely probable; but, is a conclusion therefore, to be insidiously drawn, unfavorable to the illustrious accus'd? Every sincere advocate for substantial justice, must deprecate the glaring impropriety; and yet the *impartial* Mr. Cobbet, whatever he may urge to the contrary, is guilty of insinuating such an unjustifiable inference:

Reader, if any additional proof of this disgraceful fact be wanting, mark the observations of the insidious slanderer, upon the following passage of the Morning Post. "The illustrious husband of the injured lady, will no doubt feel himself bound to avenge the insulted purity, which he was anxious to see established."* "This," says the *imprejudicing* Mr. Cobbet, "is most outrageously insolent; it is treating His Royal Highness like the wittol in the play, who, having first put his horns in his pocket, is bullied into a battle against the accuser of his wife."† Was there ever a baser or more horrible insinuation than is here conveyed in the most explicit terms? Shame! shame! shame! upon its author.

* Vide Morning Post, August 16.

† See Pol. Reg. August 23, page 269.

The Political Register, from its extensive circulation, widely disseminates the poison with which it generally abounds: on the present occasion its venom is so extremely subtle, that unless an antidote be speedily administered, numbers may be corrupted by its deleterious effects.

Mr. Cobbet, with savage exultation, tells us, his baneful insinuations, cannot be answered; "A person," says he,* "after reading the last article upon this subject," (meaning the delicate investigation) in the preceding number of the Register, page 261, observed no answer will be given to that; he was right."—Vain, contemptible slanderer! where in all thy calumnious pages is one unanswerable argument? Dost thou suppose thy exclamation of, "Why, now the report is in the Princess's possession, does she not cause it to be published?" unanswerable?—Read and blush at thy presumptuous folly!

Papers, purporting to be a copy of the report, were delivered to Her Royal Highness about the time mentioned by the *Morning Post*, of the

* Vide page 369 of Supplement to Vol 10, of the Pol. Reg.

16th of August.* As this copy was not *attested* by the signatures of the noble commissioners, and as it was delivered most disrespectfully by the Lord C—nc—ll—r's servant, (which, contrary to Mr. Cobbet's opinion, I assert could not have been proper), Her Royal Highness conceived herself justified, in doubting its authenticity; she therefore wrote a letter to her Royal uncle, wherein she enquired, if the papers she had received were to be considered the whole of the report! and entreated that she might be furnished with an *authenticated* copy, at the same time hinting, that it was her intencion to publish it, and requesting his royal permission so to do.† This letter, to prevent any mistake, the Lord Chancellor was requested to deliver, which he accordingly did; and within *these few days, and*

* It is reported that a copy thereof was sent to the P——e of W. even so early as the middle of July, why, if this were the case, was the delivery of the same to his august consort, so long postponed?

† Her R—l—H ——s, is also stated to have besought his Majesty in this letter, that her accusers might be clearly pointed out; if this be the fact, it seems that the report is defective in this particular. Q. Why should it be so?

not

not till then, a properly attested copy has, in consequence, been delivered; and it was even since then, that some additional papers, reported to have been the *original grounds* of her accusation, were forwarded to Her Royal Highness: the whole are now under the inspection of gentlemen highly distinguished for the profundity of their legal knowledge, and will in due time, be given to the public. Thus is the delay in publishing the report of the commissioners, which Mr. Cobbet falsely and wickedly insinuated to be presumptive evidence of guilt, most satisfactorily explained.

Now, let us consider this scurrilous man's odious comments upon the expression of *trifling levities*, the notice of which is said to constitute part of the report in question. I shall pass over his repeated exclamations of "Why are we left in uncertainty? Why are the means of judging correctly kept from us? Why not give us the evidence at once, and trust to us, to form a judgment, &c. &c." All these malicious enquiries I have already answered, and I flatter myself in such a manner, as to satisfy every unprejudiced mind. He wishes to know the nature of these *trifling levities*, and, infers that the editor of
the

the ~~MORNING~~ POST has blasted the reputation of our fair country-women, by observing that they are of such a nature, that *no* woman in the land is wholly without them.—Perhaps the generous enthusiasm of this advocate of the illustrious injured, may have gone rather too far, in saying that *no* woman in the land was free from such trifling levities; but I am very certain he would have been perfectly correct if he had said *few* women were, and even as it now stands his expression would have been so, had he alluded to that country, which gave birth to this *exalted* personage.

The German ladies are universally accustomed to display an ease and freedom of manner, which the more rigid habits of England, may induce us to denominate *levity*; there is, nevertheless, a wide difference between this species of levity, and that which betrays the libertine: the one proceeds from natural vivacity, unrestrained by the force of education, and never sullies the purity of the mind: the other from an innately vicious disposition, and is the *ignis fatuus*, which vice displays to allure others to depravity; this is seldom exhibited but in the presence of an object, whom its possessor wishes to seduce; that

that, on the contrary, is open and apparent at all times and in all companies.

That those levities which the commissioners have thought fit to notice, are of the description first mentioned, I will most confidently affirm. Although to particularize the whole of them might appear presumptuous and indelicate, it may not be improper to ask my readers, if fondling an infant (not a *monkey*, as Mr. Cobbet *sneeringly* asks); if, in the *gaité de cœur* inspired by social mirth, the playing at forfeits and *sensencing* the owner of a particular one, (without knowing the sex of the party,) to kiss her hand; if holding out her hand in token of farewell to a truly honorable and gallant officer, on the point of sailing against his country's foes, which he might perhaps, though with the utmost respect, venture to kiss: I repeat, it may not be improper to ask, if these or similar actions be levities to which any degree of censure ought to attach, when the education, national characteristics, and intrinsic virtues of the party are taken into consideration.

Observe, I by no means take upon myself to declare that *these are* the precise trifling levities which have been attributed to an august personage, although I should be much more fearful of uttering a falsehood if I asserted the contrary.

If then, after the foul accusations and insinuations of her vile defamers, nothing be established against the purity of this injured, much injured, lady, if, after the *strictest* investigation of her conduct, nothing appear worthy of censure to her inflexible judges, and only a few such trifling levities, as I have described, be noticed in the way of admonition, with what glorious lustre will her virtue henceforth shine, to dazzle the envying eyes of her malicious enemies, and gladden the hearts of the British nation!

That such may ultimately prove the fact, is the unceasing prayer of every upright and generous character, that such *will* prove the fact, I have the most irrefragable confidence. I shall now bid adieu to WILLIAM CORBET; he may, if he please, affect to treat me with silent contempt; or he may exhaust his fertile brain to bespatter me with filthy virulence, but I *defy*

D

him

him to controvert a single statement I have made, because I know that I have stated nothing but facts incontrovertible!

I shall now proceed to reply to the *very argumentative* ANSWER to my ADMONITORY LETTER to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, which some *silly personage* has been induced to write.

In doing this, I shall adopt the Epistolary form, and address my letter solely to ARISTIDES, * conceiving that it would be a mark of disrespect to the public, to obtrude the name of so insignificant a subject upon their notice, in any other manner: he has provoked me to the contest, and he shall find that,

“Non revertar inultus.”

* My IMBECILE ANTAGONIST has assumed the name of ARISTIDES !!!

To

To ARISTIDES.

SIR,

YOUR motive for *attempting* to answer the Admonitory Letter I addressed to the Prince of Wales, I cannot easily determine—If you stood forth the champion of the gallant baronet and his lady, whom you conceived to be seriously injured by some anecdotes I have related, they will have cause to lament your rashness, and to deplore the spirit of quixotism which urged you to fight their desperate battle with an edgeless sword.—If you intended to propagate insinuations unfavorable to the cause of an illustrious personage, you have been guilty of an unmanly, unfeeling, and ungenerous action—and if you hoped to disprove the circumstances which I have stated, you have committed an egregious error, and only *contradicted* what you had not the ability to *controvert*.

You commence your insipid Epistle with an affectation of candor, saying, that “I have not
sickened

sickened my readers with offensive nonsense, nor *disgusted you* with the namby pamby stuff (as you are pleased to style it) of *spotless innocence, immaculate purity, and all that romantic absurdity and nonsense.*" If I confess myself not flattered by this compliment, think me not ungrateful, but attribute my *apathy* to "*sheer ignorance,*" for I really cannot imagine how spotless innocence and immaculate purity can be considered either *disgusting*, or *romantic absurdity and nonsense.* You, Sir, and the parties whose cause you advocate, may probably be incapable of judging the value of those inestimable blessings: indeed the tenor of your conduct too clearly evinces the degrading fact. Throughout your pamphlet, you darkly insinuate that the late accusations against an august lady, were neither slanderous nor false; and more than once you exultingly enquire, Who told me, and what right I have to presume they were so? Now, Sir, I might answer these ridiculous, but malignant exclamations, by the maxim which you have laid down at the end of your pamphlet, namely, "that every person should be presumed innocent till they be proved guilty; but this would not satisfy the public, who feel,
deeply

deeply feel, the injuries of this insulted Princess ; therefore, I shall inform them and you, that I know from *unquestionable authority*, that she is innocent of the infamous charge brought against her, and that some of her accusers were guilty of the most detestable calumnies."—Your assertion that I am wholly ignorant of the nature of the commissioners report is, give me leave to say, an abominable falsehood.

You tell me, that I stumble on the very threshold, when I say, that the *tongue of slander* has dared to whisper the most detestable insinuations against the purity of the P——s of W——, and to prove it, you *very sagaciously* observe, that "*slander* is the circulation of *malicious falsehoods*."—I will readily allow that no man can be better qualified to define the *nature and properties of slander*, than the defender of Sir ———, and Lady ———, but how you meant your definition to prove the incorrectness of my assertion, I should be at a loss to discover, had you not, at the conclusion of the paragraph, most shamefully dared to hint that it was not certain whether the insinuations against the illustrious accused were *true or false*, and thus wickedly

wickedly inferred, that they could not be slanderous.

You have questioned the veracity of many anecdotes contained in the Admonitory Letter, and even impudently declared that they were mostly false; but, have you proved one of them to be so?—Unquestionably not.—Your argument never supports your thesis.—For instance, to contradict what I related to have passed between the P—ss and the Noble Lord, who was appointed to inform her of the accusations which had been brought forward; you tell me, that every servant who was with her R—l H—ss at that time, still retains his situation—did I say the contrary? but does it therefore follow, that she did not desire the Noble Lord to discharge them? The fact is, he thought the measure unadvisable.

You in the next place, accuse me of gross ignorance, in saying, that Lord Ellenborough was not one of the Commissioners, and to establish the fact of his having acted in that capacity, you tell me Lady D. was examined by his Lordship. This was, I believe the case; but nevertheless,

vertheless, you will most probably be convinced that he, as I have stated, resigned that office when he became acquainted with the *extent* of the calumny; nor do I think you will find his signature to the whole of the report which has been made: if it be otherwise, the whole town have been in error. I have scarcely patience to notice your puerile remarks upon that passage in my letter, wherein I mention to H. R. H. the origin of the odious insinuations which gave rise to the late enquiry.—You ridicule the idea of informing him of a circumstance which you declare was circulated by every journal in the kingdom, and then triumphantly ask if this can be considered important information, &c. How truly contemptible! Might I not with equal justice, comment in a similar manner upon the *important* information with which you commence your answer, namely, “That I have written a letter, an Admonitory Letter, &c.” Now it was necessary for me to state the origin, before I proceeded to the detail; but there could be no necessity for your informing me, or the public, that I *had written a letter*, which might be pretty accurately presumed to have been the case
from

from the *simple circumstance* of your having attempted to write an answer.

I am now arrived at a page where the *fever* of your indignation rages with such *horrific fury*, that I should certainly fall a victim to your delirious vengeance, if nature did not kindly interpose in my defence, and (as you confess) refuse you language sufficiently, "*sharp and severe*," to chastise me according to your *barbarous* wishes.—There is a wretched little animal, ycleped a *drone*, which bears so strong a resemblance to yourself, that you must pardon me for comparing you to each other.—During one of the warmest days of the present Summer, I chanced to provoke the *helpless rage* of an insect of this species; it was reposing among the petals of a *rank* and *poisonous weed* which I had previously determined should no longer flourish: endeavoring to destroy this *pernicious plant*, I was furiously attacked by its enraged *protégé*—never did outrageous hornet *buzz* more terrific threats about mine ears, but I knew the creature to be *stingless* and laughed at its *imbecile anger*. Tell me candidly, ARISTIDES, was
not

not this miserable drone an epitome of yourself?

But to resume the subject of your *mighty* indignation—I repeat (what you are pleased to denominate a *monstrous* sentiment) that I do sincerely hope the Prince of Wales did not request the public papers to contradict the report of Sir ———, and Lady ———, being more intimately concerned with the business of the delicate investigation, than any other person who had been compelled to give evidence before the commissioners: first, because I think it would have been in him extremely indelicate to have so done, and secondly, because I should be sorry if His Royal Highness had authorized the publication of a falsehood.

You have taken a great deal of pains to prove that Sir ——— did not speak of an illustrious Lady, and Captain M——y in the disrespectful manner I have related.—But have you succeeded? To what do your arguments tend? Simply to assure us, that Sir ———, and Lady ———, never dined at Mr. W——h P——t——r's. It matters little at whose table the hateful
E
conversation

conversation took place, but will M—j—r T—ph—m deny the fact, that Sir —, did relate to him the false and scandalous tale in question? If he will, an officer of very *exalted* rank, of unblemished honor and veracity, can prove that he has not *always done so*.

You appeal to Captain M——y for the truth of your assertion, that he and Sir —— never met but twice.—Did I say they had ever met at all? You thus maliciously hope to insinuate, that I believed the circumstance of the P——ss, and the former gentleman having acted as it was stated by Sir ——, and that I gave it as a fact, and only blamed the detailer thereof for its disclosure: whereas you must be aware that I pronounced it a *detestable falsehood*, but declared, that I had heard from good authority, such a falsehood had been audaciously promulgated. I have since heard inebrity pleaded in excuse, and that too by persons not unconnected with the business: perhaps the fumes of wine have deprived the *respectable baronet* of recollection, for I understand, he has solemnly denied *upon his word and honor*, all memory of the circumstance.—You conclude your observations
upon

upon this part of my pamphlet, by most insolently affecting *to do justice* to her Royal Highness, and Captain M——y, and declare that you are warranted to affirm Sir ——, never witnessed such a spectacle.—Let me tell you, Sir, that there is not a man existing who believes he did ; neither does the purity of the illustrious personage, nor the unimpeachable honor of the gallant Captain M——y, require that *you* should do them justice.

You will please to observe, in reply to the succeeding part of your answer, that *I* have not attributed the circumstance of Sir ——, and Lady ——, standing forward as accusers, to *any* particular motives, but have simply mentioned two of the *disgracing* reports, which have been circulated on the occasion : reports, which the weakness of their advocate will inevitably tend to strengthen.—Can you advance no better argument in their defence, than that neither of them are acquainted with Mrs. F—tz—t ?—Captain M——y is, I believe, wholly unacquainted with that lady, yet has he been insulted with the most disgraceful proposals, although I cannot take upon myself to affirm *these* proceeded
either

either directly or indirectly from Mrs. F——. Let me seriously advise you to argue with more effect, or not at all.

I by no means wish to depreciate the courage of the man, who (as you inform us) “animated British valor at the siege of Acre;” on the contrary, I believe him to be equally fearless of the attacks of Bonaparte, and of the bottle, although he may, on some occasions, have preferred a rencontre with the latter, and thus have become incapacitated to exert his energies, so frequently as he might have wished against the former; but of this, there is a person more capable of judging than either of us.—I mean the heroic Sir S——y S——th, with whose opinion upon this subject I am not totally unacquainted; but shall content myself with observing that I do not believe it was his *admiration of the gallant baronet* which occasioned his *frequent visits* to his residence.*

* As Aristides affects to be a man of general information, perhaps he can inform us, *whom* it was thought necessary by the commanding officer to put under arrest for *drunkenness*, on the quarter deck of the Tigre, off Acre?

Ho

When you extracted sentences from my pamphlet, it would have appeared more generous if you had copied them correctly instead of mutilating, and blending them with your own, to answer more conveniently, your dishonorable purposes.—In one place (page 17.) you thus impudently cause it to be inferred, “that I acknowledge Mrs. Mc—’s arguments, so absurd as to leave an impression not favorable to Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.”—I defy

He may also be able to inform us, if a certain *marine officer* was ever on shore, more than once or twice, to *spirit British valor* during the whole sixty days siege of Acre? that he did land on the day when a *sortie* was determined on for the destruction of the mine, &c. is certain, but it was the brave Major Oldfield who commanded the marines of the *Theseus*, that dashed forward and achieved the enterprise, although at the expence of his valuable life.—He nobly fell; and the spirited Lieutenant Wright (since Captain Wright, murdered in the temple at Paris) received a desperate wound. On the party’s return, within the walls of Acre, they met the marines belonging to the *Tigre*, who were destined to have assisted their gallant comrades, but owing to some accident (*certainly not the inebrity of their commander*) had been prevented forming the preconcerted junction. If however, *ARISTIDES* cannot satisfy us on these heads, the officers of the *Theseus*, and *Tigre*, or any of the brave marines who served on board either of them at that time, unquestionably can.

you,

you, Sir, or any other person, who will read the whole anecdote as related by me, to draw any such conclusion.

It appears to me that you have not read my pamphlet, for I am certain you have not understood it, and Cicero says, *legere et non intelligere, nec legere est* : if you had, you would not have been guilty of so many absurdities in your answer.

You accuse me of slandering the Prince of Wales, whereas I have only admonished him, how to avoid becoming the object of slander. You tell me I have produced no proof in support of my charge of apathy and indifference ; whereas I have, in a note, most clearly *stated* my authority, and I rather think the thing is too evident to require additional proof. You also assert that I have not pointed out, who are the persons that ought to be supposed, the original instigators of the *infamous* calumny, and yet you condemn me for having accused Sir,—and Lady—of the fact. In short, your inconsistency is only exceeded by your imbelicity—your imbecility only by your ignorance and effrontery.

If you will take the trouble to read my strictures upon Mr. Cobbet, who has prostituted a much abler pen than your own, in the same unjustifiable cause, you may perceive how grossly you were mistaken in supposing me totally ignorant of the nature of the commissioners report; in the mean time you may rest assured that I know sufficient to warrant my asserting *that* the *amiable* and illustrious personage, whose conduct was the subject of investigation, has been *most scandalously* traduced, and that a certain baronet and his lady, were the chief instigators of the enquiry, which has added nothing to the honor or amiability of their characters. If you ask what authority I have for the latter assertion, suppose I should reply the baronet's own, would you, bold as you are in falsehood, venture to contradict me? Before you do so, I would at any rate, advise you to ask Sir——, if he did not tell a gentleman, who waited on him very recently upon business not *wholly* unconnected with the ADMONITORY LETTER, you have *attempted* to answer, "that he should have disclosed all he knew relative to the P——ss of W——s, three years back had he not been advised to the contrary, by one of the R——l Dukes and that
what

what he had disclosed was in consequence of conversations which he had himself had with that illustrious lady, and of letters he had obtained with her signature which he *believed* were *genuine*. By what *honorable* means, Sir——, got possession of any genuine letters, written by Her Royal Highness, it may possibly puzzle *even your sagacity* to determine.

When the report of the commissioners shall be published, which it now most certainly will be, we shall discover beyond the shadow of doubt, who are the injurers and who the injured. My opinion is already formed, and, without arrogating to myself, any extraordinary share of pre-science, I venture to predict the public will judge as I have.

NO PARASITE.

FINIS.

MAY 6 1968

